

Appl. No. 10/625,823
Reply to Office Action of 06/16/2006

Attorney Docket No. WS-102

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claim 1 was amended to correct "said wireless mobile phone" to "said wireless mobile device". Claims 2-15 remain unchanged. Claims 16-28 were previously withdrawn, as being drawn to a non-elected invention. The election was made without traverse.

The Examiner rejected claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 112 for lack of antecedent basis for "mobile phone". Claim 1 was amended to correct "said wireless mobile phone" to "said wireless mobile device". It is believed that this amendment overcomes the 35 U.S.C. 112 rejection.

The Examiner rejected independent claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Halpern (US Patent Application Publication U.S. 2004/00773772). The Examiner argued that "Halpern teaches a wireless mobile device adapted to access a wireless network comprising a subscriber identification module (SIM) card slot and a contactless smart card reader/writer module electrically connected to said wireless mobile phone via said SIM card slot and wherein said contactless smart card reader/writer module is adapted to receive and read information stored in a contactless smart card and transmit said information to an entity via said wireless network (Page 3, [0037], [0041], [0044]; Page 4, [0049]; Halpern)"

The Applicant believes that the above mentioned statement is incorrect. Referring to Halpern, Page 3, [0042] and FIG. 13, the mobile phone antenna 40 is connected to an oscillator 47 generating oscillations at one of the standard frequencies for contactless cards. Burst of power representing binary data at this standard frequency are applied to a wire loop 50. When a card loop 61 is placed close to wire loop 50, the two loops form a closely coupled pair and the signal of the binary data is transferred to the card. In other words, Halpern teaches that the data transfer between the card and the mobile phone occurs via electromagnetic coupling of wire loops 50 and 61. Halpern does not teach

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connecting a card reader/writer module to the mobile phone and in particular it does not teach connecting a contactless smart card reader/writer module to the mobile phone via a SIM slot.

We would like to point out the following differentiation of the present invention from Halpern. According to claim 1, the wireless mobile device of this invention comprises a slot for receiving a SIM card and a reader/writer module that is adapted to receive contactless smart cards. The reader/writer module is electrically connected to the wireless mobile device via the SIM card slot. Halpern's mobile phone has the capability of reading a contactless card, but Halpern's card reading capability consists of a wire loop that couples electromagnetically to a wire loop on the card. Halpern does not teach connecting a contactless smart card reader to the mobile phone via the SIM card slot of the mobile phone. Actually there is no mention at all of a SIM card slot in the entire specification of Halpern's application.

Accordingly, since Halpern does not teach connecting a contactless card reader to a mobile communication device via the SIM slot of the mobile communication device, the 102 rejection of claim 1 based on Halpern is overcome.

Claims 2-15 depend directly or indirectly upon claim 1 and since claim 1 is patentably distinguishable from the cited prior art they should also be distinguishable from the cited prior art.

The Examiner rejected claims 3, 4 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Halpern in view of Landman, claims 5,6,11,12 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Halpern in view of Yaqub, claims 7,8 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Halpern in view of Yaqub and Althoff, claim 14 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Halpern in view of Path, and claims 10, 15 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Halpern in view of Path and Nemirofsky. However, since claim 1 is patentably distinguishable from Halpern and claims 2-15 depend directly

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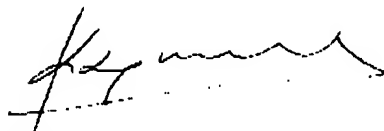
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or indirectly upon claim 1, they are also distinguishable from Halpern alone and in any other combination with the cited prior art.

In view of the above, it is submitted that claims 1-15 are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the final rejection is requested and allowance of all claims at an early date is solicited.

If this response is found to be incomplete, or if a telephone conference would otherwise be helpful, please call the undersigned at 617-558-5389

Respectfully submitted,



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Certificate of Mailing

Date of Deposit 8/15/06

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I hereby certify under 37 CFR 1.10 that this correspondence is being faxed on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450